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PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHDG #1016 2471216
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 041216Z SEP 09
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3337
INFO RUEHPU/AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY 5041
RUMISTA/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL PRIORITY

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 001016

SIPDIS

STATE FOR WHA/CAR

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PREF](#) [DR](#)
SUBJECT: VIGILANTE MOB KILLS HAITIAN AND DOMINICAN
SUSPECTED OF MURDER

REF: SANTO DOMINGO 962

¶1. A vigilante mob in Las Charcas de Azua, a northwestern province of the Dominican Republic, on 8/30, hunted down and killed a Haitian and a Dominican national suspected of having robbed and murdered a local youth. The mob then reportedly burned the bodies in front of the murdered youth's family's home. The Dominican police have detained an unknown number of suspects and initiated investigations into both crimes.

¶2. The Director of Movimiento de Mujeres Dominico-Haitianas (MUDHA), Sonia Pierre, expressed concern to Poloff that the evidence against the Haitian and the Dominican was based on rumors and speculations. She also stated some family members of the deceased Haitian have fled the area due to fear of more violence by Dominicans.

¶3. COMMENT: As reported in reftel, vigilante justice continues to be a serious problem in the DR, particularly in rural and isolated communities. While a Haitian was one of the victims of the latest incident, it appears that his involvement with the gang suspected of committing the crime led to his murder, and not his Haitian nationality. Given the anti-Haitian reaction by mobs in Moca and Tamboril last month, however, it is not surprising that relatives of the murdered Haitian chose to flee the area. END COMMENT.

LAMBERT